

DOCKET NO.: 3DP-0456
Application No.: 09/826,210
Office Action Dated: June 2, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 39, 41, 42, and 48-84 are pending in the application.

Claims 39, 62-69 and 75-81 are allowed.

Claims 41, 42, 48-53, 82 and 83 were cancelled. Claims 54-61, 70-74, and 84 have been amended. After entry of this amendment, claims 39, 54-81, and 84 are pending.

The examiner stated that the Declaration under 37 CFR §1.132, filed on 11 March 2003, was sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 39 and 54-81 based upon lack of enablement.

The examiner further stated that the application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters: the presence of non-elected claims 41-42, 48-53 (with traverse); and claims 54-61, 70-74 and 84 were objected to for depending on non-elected claims.

The examiner suggested that Applicants either cancel the non-elected claims (and amend the dependency of the objected claims) or take other appropriate action under 37 CFR 1.144. Applicants have cancelled claims 41-42, and 48-53 without prejudice without prejudice to pursuing the claims in a continuing application.

All claim amendments are made without prejudice and do not represent an acquiescence in any ground of rejection.

AMENDMENTS AND REMARKS

Applicants' representative appreciated the telephone conference with Examiner Saoud on October 15, 2003, regarding the status of the claims, and in particular, the withdrawn

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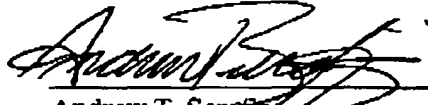
claims and cancelled claims. Per the discussion with the examiner, Applicants have cancelled the withdrawn claims from consideration as evidenced in this Supplemental Response.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206.332 1380

Date: November 3, 2003


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